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tioned which could by any possibility have been derived from the affected area.

Considering the many conditions existing in Japan most favorable to the propagation of the malady, the success of the authorities in combating the disease, both last winter and during the present season, furnishes strong evidence, additional to that which has already been accumulated elsewhere, that, save in regions where all rational action is rendered nugatory by the superstition or active opposition of the people, plague must be considered as a preventable disease.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Report from Progreso—Yellow fever at Merida.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, *July 3, 1900.*

SIR: It would be a source of great pleasure to me if I could find some way of impressing upon our countrymen that persons of unhealthy habits simply court their death by coming down here expecting to work and continue in their accustomed ways. The climate and country *per se* is not unhealthy, as tropic countries go, but, to people accustomed to the northern temperature, the utmost temperance in all things should be carried out. As a matter of fact this is the last thing carried in mind until too late.

Merida has had since the commencement of the warm season, up to date, 7 cases of yellow fever, 4 of which have proved fatal.

Smallpox has claimed some victims. Hæmorrhagic smallpox has been declared in two instances, brought originally from Mexico, it is said, and certain circumstances connected with these cases have caused much alarm. I shall keep the Department duly informed in regard to these matters.

Respectfully,

EDWARD THOMPSON,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Death from yellow fever at Tampico.

TAMPICO, MEXICO, *August 15, 1900.*

One death from yellow [fever] yesterday. No other cases officially reported.

SAMUEL E. MAGILL.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

TAMPICO, MEXICO, *August 16, 1900.*

SIR: On the 15th instant I sent the following cable, which I hereby confirm: "One death from yellow fever yesterday. No other cases officially reported."

From the records of the hospital I learn that the deceased was a Spanish sailor from Vera Cruz, had been sick 4 days, and post-mortem held by Dr. Matienzo proved yellow fever.

There are no other cases now in the care of any physician either in the city or the hospital. Will advise you in case of epidemic.

Respectfully,

SAMUEL E. MAGILL,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.